

# SAN FRANCISCO IS WIPED OUT BY EARTHQUAKE AND FLAMES; OVER ONE THOUSAND LIVES LOST

BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF SAN FRANCISCO, WRECKED BY EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE



Great Coast City is Wiped Out by Shock and Fire

Over 1,000 Lives Known Lost in City Alone

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—At midnight San Francisco is in ruins. The fire is still raging, and it looks now as if the last vestiges of the city will be wiped out. The loss of life is estimated at 1,000 persons in this place alone. The pecuniary loss will amount to over 200,000,000. About 100,000 people are homeless. Martial law has been proclaimed. Terror reigns supreme, and men watching the flames sweeping the city away are driven insane. Ghouls robbing the dead are summarily shot down. From all the cities and towns surrounding San Francisco come stories of awful devastation and suffering. The loss of life has been great, and the end is not yet.

## HUNDREDS ARE KILLED; THOUSANDS ARE HOMELESS

Entire Families Buried Under the Debris--- People Fall Dead in Street From Terror---Ghouls Are Robbing the Bodies

### PITIALE SUFFERING EVERYWHERE

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—The greatest earthquake ever recorded in this country, followed by a fire which has swept over many square miles of the very heart of San Francisco, to-day caused the loss of 1,000 or more lives and swept away \$200,000,000 worth of the most valuable property in the city. The fire is still burning and it looks as if the entire city will be wiped out.

With San Francisco as its heart and centre, the earthquake has spread ruin and disaster through a region having a radius of nearly a hundred miles.

San Jose, nearly sixty miles to the south, has been wrecked, and villages even farther south have been partially destroyed, while inland for a hundred miles and ninety miles to the north loss of life and great property damage has been caused.

The great buildings of the Leland Stanford University are reported to have been toppled to the ground by three shocks of the earthquake, and the University of California has been partially ruined. The insane asylum at Agnew's is a ruin and the inmates have escaped.

**CITY UNDER MARTIAL LAW.**

The loss of life outside of San Francisco has not even been estimated. Wires are down in all directions outside of the city, and only the most meagre details are to be obtained. Thousands of people are homeless and many are huddled in the parks and public squares beside the household goods they were able to save.

The city is under martial law, and all the down-town streets are patrolled by cavalry and infantry. Details of troops are also guarding the banks. Almost all the principal buildings have been destroyed, and others are in imminent danger. Over all the scene of desolation hangs a dense pall of smoke. The report comes from Palo Alto that a 11 but one of the buildings of the Leland Stanford, Jr., University has been wrecked, and that the splendid memorial church, one of the finest structures of its kind in the world, is a mass of ruins. One student is known to have lost his life.

In Oakland five persons were killed. San Jose and Sacramento, Berkeley, Alameda and other places heard from suffered severely, but report no loss of life. The dreadful earthquake shock came without warning at precisely 5:13 o'clock this morning, its motion apparently being from east to west. At first the upheaval of the earth was gradual, but in a few seconds it increased in intensity.

**MULTITUDE OF FIRES.**

Amid a pile of bricks and mortar, which heap up about the telegrapher, I am sending this story of the awful calamity that has befallen San Francisco—a calamity that in seriousness and magnitude makes the recent eruption of Vesuvius appear trivial.

It was exactly at 5:15 o'clock this morning that the city was tossed about like a feather by the wind. The earth seemed to sink for a moment, and then the buildings to rise in the air like a balloon. Then there was another sinking, the like of which no mortal ever experienced a second time. Then the buildings of the town rocked and wobbled like a frail thing in the storm.

As I said, no mortal man can experience the peculiar sensation that accompanied this upheaval, for no city can twice withstand such a shock.

Three minutes after the awful earthquake the town was a mass of torn streets, and the city filled with automobiles and hacks. Im-

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THE MAGNIFICENT \$7,000,000 CITY HALL.

## MANY CITIES DESTROYED; LOSS OF LIFE VERY GREAT

Destruction General Around San Francisco---About 300 Killed at Santa Rosa---Insane Asylum and Hotel Destroyed---Pleasure Resort Plunges Into Sea.

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—Reports from cities near San Francisco show the destruction was general. Santa Rosa, sixty miles north, is in flames and the damage is over a million dollars. The loss of life is not known.

At Napa many buildings were shattered, and the loss will amount to \$300,000. No loss of life is reported.

At Vallecito the damage was slight in comparison with that suffered in other cities. The loss will be about \$10,000.

**CLIFF HOUSE LOST; SANTA ROSA RUINED**

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., April 18.—From the Cliff House comes word that the great pleasure resort and show place of the city, which stood upon a foundation of solid rock, has been swept into the sea. Not a thing stands to tell where the monster stone building once stood. It has been leveled to the foundation, and only the rock lining the seacoast remains intact.

Dr. Stone, superintendent of the Napa State Hospital, telephones the Governor's office that an automobile arrived there with news that Santa Rosa is ruined, and that between 200 and 300 people are killed.

**SALINAS SHAKEN; PEOPLE IN TERROR**

(By Associated Press.)

SALINAS, CAL., April 18.—At 5:15 o'clock this morning, three shocks of earthquake shook Salinas, lasting, respectively, five, three and forty-two seconds. They came from the northeast and southwest. The damage is \$1,500,000. No lives were lost in Salinas. A. Armstrong, of Santa Cruz, jumped from the window of the Jeffers House and broke a leg.

Among the buildings destroyed in Salinas are the Ford and Stanbury building, dry goods; Elks' Hall, Masonic building, the Knights of Pythias building, armory, Port & Irving's store, Logan cypress, Old-Felows' building, City Hall and several smaller buildings. Every window in the city was broken. Chimneys toppled over and crashed through roofs. Spreckels's sugar factory, three miles from town, was destroyed, causing damage of \$1,500,000. The High School building was wrecked. Several stores lost their entire stocks.

At 2:25 o'clock this afternoon another shock was experienced, but no lives were lost. Several men, women and children were cut about the face by flying glass. There is intense excitement.

**At Other Places.**

Salinas is cut off from wire communication with San Francisco, 118 miles north.

At Watsonville the Moreland Academy was destroyed by fire and several buildings collapsed.

At Monterey and Pacific Grove there was a slight shock that caused little damage.

At the Delmont Hotel three chimneys fell through the roof, killing a bride and a hotel servant, and injuring several other persons.

At Hollister Granger's Union Warehouse was destroyed. Mrs. Griffith was killed and her husband became crazed on account of the shock.

**INSANE ASYLUM AND HOTEL RUINED**

(By Associated Press.)

LOS ANGELES, CAL., April 18.—News comes to this city from Niles, a small town in the Santa Clara Valley, about fifteen miles from San Jose, stating that the earthquake

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## THE GREAT CITY IN RUINS; FLAMES ARE STILL RAGING

The Latest Reports Indicate That Entire San Francisco Has Been Wiped Out---Pecuniary Loss Will Be Over \$200,000,000

CITY IS NOW UNDER MARTIAL LAW

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—At midnight the fire still roars. Fleeing inhabitants can see from miles around the pillars of fire towering skyward. The crash of falling ruins and the muffled reports of the exploding dynamite reach the ear at regular intervals. A disaster that staggers comprehension, and in point of terror of damage is unprecedented on the coast, has not yet reached its culmination.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—10 P. M.—It looks now as if the entire city will be burned. The Associated Press men are trying to get matter to Oakland by boat, but they are very uncertain. The government is furnishing tugs but the confusion is so great that they cannot be relied upon. It will be impossible to send full details for several days.

At 10 o'clock the fire was unabated and thousands of people are fleeing to the hills and clamoring for places on the ferry-boats to cross the bay.

The damage is now believed to have reached \$200,000,000 and fifty thousand people are thought to be homeless.

10:10 P. M.—The newspapers have ceased all efforts to collect news and the Associated Press is compelled to act independently.

**RUINS OF GREAT CITY MARK PATH OF EARTHQUAKE AND TERRIBLE FIRES**

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., April 18.—Earthquakes and fire to-day have put nearly half of San Francisco in ruins. At least 200 persons have been killed, a thousand injured, and the property loss will exceed one hundred million dollars. Thousands are homeless and destitute, and all day long streams of people have been fleeing from the stricken districts to places of safety.

It was 5:13 this morning when a terrific earthquake shock shook the whole city and surrounding country. One shock apparently lasted two minutes, and there was almost immediate collapse of flimsy structures all over the city. The water supply was cut off and when fires broke out in various sections there was nothing to do but let the buildings burn. Telegraph and telephone communication was cut off for a time. The Western Union was put completely out of business, and the Postal Company was the only company that managed to get a wire out of the city. About 10 o'clock even the Postal was forced to suspend.

Electric power was stopped and street cars did not run. Railroads and ferry-boats also ceased operations. Fires have been raging all day, and the fire department has been powerless to do anything except dynamite buildings threatened. All day long explosions have shaken the city and added to the terror of the inhabitants.

Following the first shock there was another within five minutes, but not nearly so severe. Three hours later there was another slight quake. Reports from districts outside of San Francisco indicate widespread damage. San Jose, fifty miles south, lost many buildings and from fifteen to twenty persons were killed. The annex of the Vendome Hotel collapsed and fires broke out.

Stanford University and Palo Alto suffered greatly. At Stanford many of the handsome buildings were demolished and two persons were killed. One of them was Julius Robert Hanna, of Bradford, Pa., and the other was Otto Curtis, a fireman.

Six other students are lying in the Palo Alto hospital, with bruises, cuts and internal injuries—all California students.

The courthouse at Redwood City and other buildings collapsed.